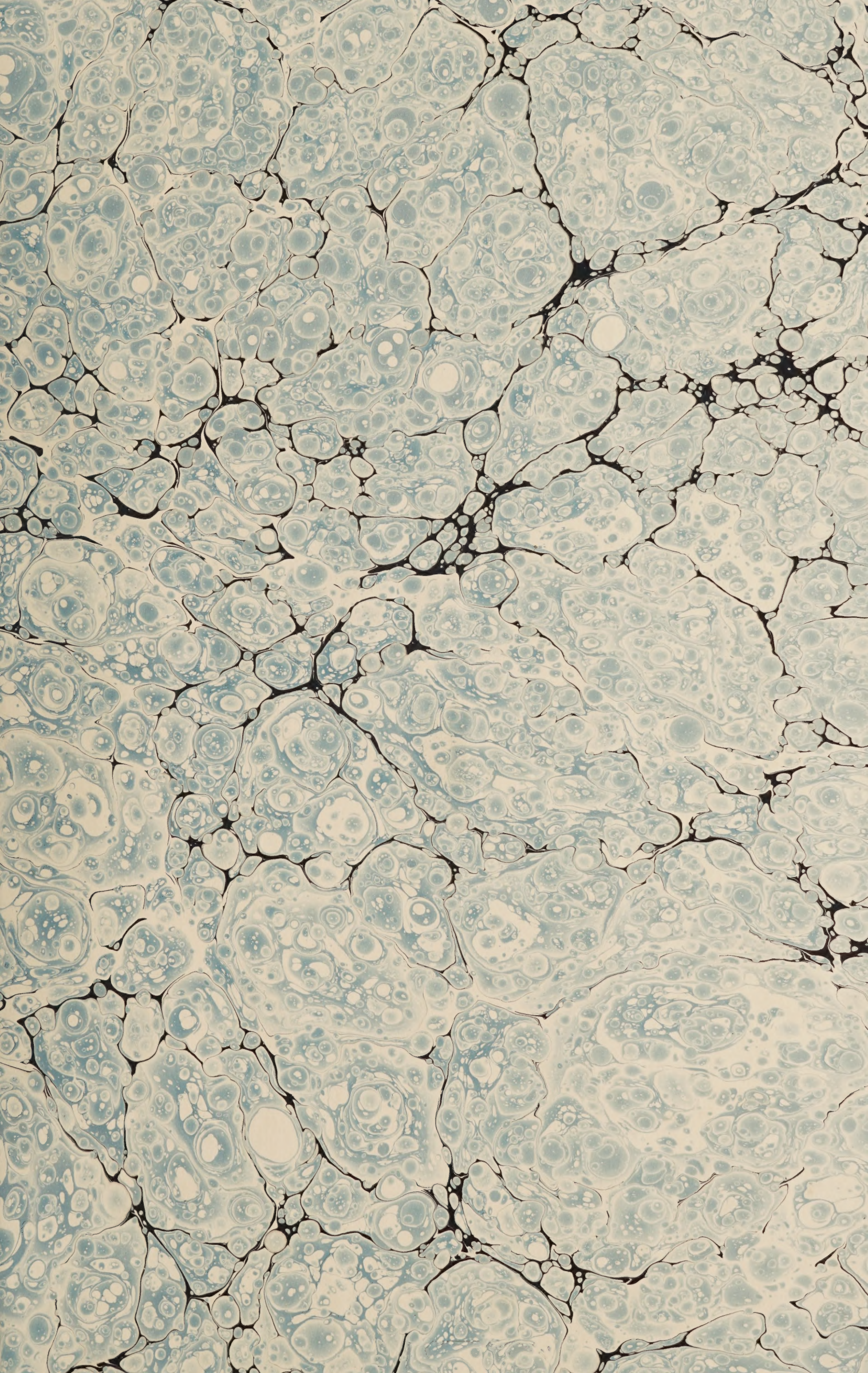

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David Dodo

David Dodo Jr

David Dodo Jr

Barque Russell of N Bedford

on a Voyage to the

Pacific Ocean

Shubael Worth Commander

1831, 32, 33 & 34

David Dodge Jr

from the Lat 35° S. Long 62° West

Falkland Islands	N 31° E	242 miles
Trinidad Island	" 38	2360 "
Cape St Augustine	N 27° W	820 "
Equator Long 35	N 37 W	630 "
" to Lat 5° N	North	300 "
Block Island	N 43 W	2[illegible]

7327

Thus at the going down of the sun I found myself at the g once
more bidding adieu to my native shore under ye m pe-

November 17th — At 4 A. M. all hands turned out and hove short. At 5 the Captain and Pilot came on board. Weighed anchor, made all sail and stood down Buzzard's Bay with a fair wind. At 8.30 the Pilot left us and we stood to sea.
Stowed the anchors, coiled the chains, secured things about the decks &c &c — At 4 P.M. lost sight of the land. — " —

" — " —

November 29th — Thus far we have been favored with fair winds; and although the first part of our passage was unusually boisterous, still we have rapidly proceeded on our course, without any casualty of note. — The two last days we have been among the Cape de Verd Islands, and today a boat was on shore at Fogo with the Captain — Some oranges and a few fowls were obtained and brought on board. At 5 P.M. left Fogo — — —

" — " —

Dec: 6th — Moderate breezes and very fine weather drawing near to the Equator —
At 5 P.M. descried a shoal of Sperm whales lowered all the boats in pursuit of them. One only was captured (by the starboard boat) — a 60 bbl whale —

" — "

Jan: 26th 1832 — After a run of 74 days from St. Bartholomew, at 9 A.M. descried Staten Island bearing Southerly & Easterly — An English ship off the weather quarter and an American ship off the weather bow — At 6 P.M.

at 11 A.M. closed with the Hancocks ship and spoke with her. She proved to be the Uncas of Falmouth, from thence for the Pacific, 74 days out. Kept company through out the day, and our Capt went on board of her.

Weather in the morning fair and cool with a fine breeze from the westward. — Middle and latter parts moderate and pleasant. — At 5 P.M. Staten Island distant about 5 miles southerly. — " — " — "

Talcahuano.

Nothing more than ordinary occurred in our passage round Cape Horn. We encountered several severe gales, but our little ship made good weather, and proved an excellent sea boat; — ~~we could not lay to~~, and after a fortnight's tossing about we found ourselves ~~part of the~~ most of the panoratory — with our head to the northward and rapidly advancing into the Pacific waters —

It was the intention of our Capt to stop at Talcahuano, coast of Chili; but, owing to the condensed state of the atmosphere, erroneous altitudes were obtained for the time, and pursuing by Chronometer reckoning we fell to leeward of the port — Corrected our reckoning and bore away for Callao.

The weather along the coast of Chili, was boisterous and the wind fair. In the latitude 30° S — shipped a sea which took the larboard ~~away~~ quarter boat away. Hove the ship too, and lowered another boat hoping to get her again but the attempt proved abortive.

March 2 saw the peaks of the Cordilleras mountains — in Peru above the clouds and on the 5th arrived in Callao after a passage of 114 days from the U. S. A. — all well — We lay in Callao 7 days. Recruited with fresh provisions, and a stock of potatoes, cabages &c. for the sea. Each watch had 3 days liberty on shore

March 12th Sailed from Callao for a cruise. —
We cruised the first months about the Gallapagos Islands
and between those Islands and the Coast frequently falling in
with large shoals of Sperm whales but owing to their
being uncommonly shy we were not very successful in
capturing them —

In the month of June we anchored in James[3]
Island harbour where we lay a few days, and took
on board about 150 Terapin — which are the best sea stock that
I have ever seen —

After leaving James' Island we cruised some
time near the equator, and on the 21st July anchored
at Tecanas a small port which lies in 30' North —
Here we filled up our water and obtained an abundance
of Oranges, Pine apples, bananas &c —

These Islands lying between the latitude of 2° South &
the Equator and between the longitude of 86° & 92° West
are mountainous and for the most part nearly barren — The Prickly Pear and Cabbage Tree are found
however growing spontaneously upon the most rocky places
even where there appears nothing to nourish them
but the mass of congealed lava or broken volcanic
lava upon which the [illegible] rooted they thrive
in abundance — Yet in some of the vallies and upon
the summits of many of the mountains there is a rich soil and
in some of them water is found — — There are many
good harbours about these Islands and they abound
in Terapin which makes it an object for whale ships
to stop at them. At Charles' Island there is a settlement
of about seventy families, called the Colony of Floriana
under Governor Valisnil, to whom, in partnership with several
other officers, the Island has been given in remuneration for
their services by the Mexican Government — I shall give an
account of the flourishing condition of the colony hereafter —

After leaving James's Island we cruised some time near the equator and on the 25th Sept anchored at Tecamas a small port that lies in 50 north latitude. Here we filled up our water casks, and obtained an abundance of oranges fine apples, bananas &c — took on board a supply of wood and some fresh —

The inhabitants here are nearly all native Mexicans — They appear to be a very innocent and very hospitable people — shew the greatest respect to strangers — and it seems that they idolize the Governor of the Province who is a native of France — Nature has been so lavish of her bounties in this place that Groves of oranges, plantains cocoanut &c abound and the earth yields its produce unaided by culture — Hence the inhabitants are very indolent —

From Tecamas we beat up the coast — cruised a short while off Paita head took 100 bbls of oil and on the 7th Sept anchored in Paita harbour.

At Paita we found a number of ships of which sailed from the U. S. about the same time as ourselves — They had all been more successful than we had, having been cruising on the western ground, and taken many whales —

We lay at Paita a week — recruited with potatoes and onions — Each watch had three days liberty on shore

From Paita we proceeded directly to James's Island where we arrived the 24th Sept — took on board a stock of wood and supply of terapin and sailed again on the 2d of October for a cruise upon the western ground

October 10th we were in the latitude of 3° South and long 100° west. From that time to the 2d of the following Feby we cruised between the equator & 12° South latitude and between 100° & 110° west Longitude. We fell in with many ships but found the whales very scarce. Notwithstanding, we were fortunate in capturing what we can that we took

seven hundred barrels of oil during that time; which I believe was nearly double the quantity that any other ship got ~~during that time~~ upon the same ground —

Feby. 3d. 1833 — We left the latitude of 3° South and longitude of 105 West, bound to Talcahuano. — We had a pleasant, though tedious passage being 42 days (the 17th March) before we reached our port.

Talcahuano lies in the latitude of 36. 41' South and longitude of 73°. 12' west. It is situated at the head of an extensive bay, which is formed by the Island of Cardecina, and about S. S. W. 9 miles distant from Concepcion, of which city it is the sea port. There is anchorage in the bay, and the harbour is commodious. The shipping ride with the greatest ease and safety from all winds except northers, which blow directly into the bay and cause a heavy ~~sea~~ swell to roll into the harbour. It is seldom however that a ship drags her anchors, the ground being very good to hold —

The Chilians are a hardy and industrious people. — They are of middling stature, — generally coarse features and of a brown complexion. There are however exceptions, especially among the female sex some of which are fair, and would be thought handsome in Europe or America. Even the brunettes, with their open countenances, keen black eyes, jet black hair, and easy graceful deportment are irresistibly attracting. — They appear to be a very ingenious people — free and easy in their manners and honorable in their dealings; much more so than the European & American, many of whom are residents among them. —

The country

The country is fertile and the climate ~~both~~ (excepting the small pox which is a prevalent disease) healthy. The products of the soil are similar to opposite that ~~are produced~~ in the same parallel of latitude in the United States. Orchards of apples, pears peach, ~~&c~~ trees ~~and vineyards of grapes~~ are found growing spontaneously among the valleys, which yield ~~their fruit~~ abundantly. an abundance of fruit — and the grape vines are seen bending to the ground with the overloads ~~luxuriance of yielding~~ and purple clusters — Cattle and horses are abundant and are sold at very low prices, Cattle and hogs are only a good horse being worth ~~not~~ a doubloon and a bullock not more than half that sum —

Talcahuano is a convenient ~~the best~~ port for a whale ship to recruit at and every article that is necessary for ships bound on a long cruise may be obtained at lower rates than any other port on the coast of Chile or Peru if we except Valparaiso —

~~We~~ remained eleven days in port during which time we painted ships filled our water casks, ~~&c~~ took on board a good recruit of vegetables and fruit and a live bullock for sea stock — The ships company had four days liberty on shore —

On the 29th of March we sailed from Talcahuano for a cruise ~~down~~ on the 31st day off and on Valparaiso harbour, and left our carpenter who had been lamed several months by a bruised ankle on board the United States frigate Potomack — From thence we made a straight course for the latitude of 5° South and longitude of 105° West, where we arrived after three weeks passage of very fine weather

there we fell in with a great many ships and during the
the month of May saw many whales but the rapidity
with which the moon rendered it next to an impossi-
bility for a boat to get near them (unless so fortunate
as to fall in ahead of them) and in that manner come in
contact) consequently our success was but trivial having
at the end of May taken only one whale. In the
months of June and July the whales were scarce. We
however were more fortunate in taking what few we fell
in with and at the expiration of that time we had
about two hundred barrels to our favor. The most of
the ships had left or were now about leaving the ground
for Sout to recruit generally with very bad success
and as the prospect did not appear favorable, our Capt thought
it best to follow the general movement. Accordingly on
the beginning of August we trimmed all sail by the wind on
the Southern tack and left the Latitude of 3° South and
Longitude 10° West bound for the most favorable
port at present the nearest favor. On the 7th instant we
were in Latitude 12° South and Longitude 110° West and
at 12 noon descried a Sperm whale two miles distant
from the ships. The boats were immediately lowered
in pursuit and at 2 P.M. we had the whale alongside the ship
Three days after we fell in with and captured two other
large whales, which with the former made nearly 200 bbls. oil. The
weather was very fine while we were taking care of this
lot but we had no sooner got the oil below decks than
the South East trades began to freshen and in a short
time blew a heavy gale. This would have rendered
our progress to the Southward very slow had we attempted
it, but our Commander thought it more prudent to put the
ships head to the N.E. which was done and in a few
days we were again in Lat 3° South and Long 105 West.
The

The weather was huge, but the whales were down the ground is abundance and there was now but one other ship in that vicinity where we were. We lay for 28 days upon this ground under double close reefed topsails and took in the time 500 bbls oil. There was not the least difficulty in capturing, always having the whales under our lee and yet we considered ourselves fortunate that no accident happened as we were obliged to run the boats on to them in all directions. Not a boat was cracked — Having now made a good season work we set about getting into port in good earnest and again made sail with our head to the southward. Our movement was very tardy the winds being light and adverse so that we had to run as far as the latitude of 36° South before we got a wind that would allow us to make our easting in consequence of which we did not arrive at Callao until the 14th of Nov. having been 7½ months out of sight of land and having on board 2000 bbls Sperm oil —

At Callao we found the United States frigate Potomack and Sloop of War Dolphin, the British frigate Dublin and two French ships of war together with many Merchantmen and whalers several had cruised in company upon the western ground and had now no more oil than we. We parted from them about the 1st August. There were the Ship Baltic of Nantucket — 26 months out 1200 bbls. Barque Catania of Fr. Den Bedford — 27 months 700 — Barque Hazard of do — 23 mo. 300 —

A few days previous to our leaving the western ground one of our harpooners Prince J. Robinson was taken unwell and it was first supposed that his complaint was a contusion upon the chest received from the subsequent stroke of his dying steer did not warrant the fact. He continued the process convalescing

Still
gradually grew feeble and at the time of our arrival
was reduced to a very low state. Immediately after
he was removed to the shore where he had every attention
both medical and otherwise and appeared to be improving —
the most urgent symptoms being removed — until ~~the 2 o'clock~~
of the 22d inst at noon when a sudden change took
place and at 2 P.M. he expired. The doctors im-
puted his sudden decease to the rupture of an abscess on the
lungs — On the day following his ~~mortal~~ remains were
consigned to their last earthly tenement in the European
and American burial ground upon the Island of St.
Lorenzo nine miles distant from Lima. The funeral was attended
by a respectable procession of boats to the island
and the usual service was very impressively performed
by the Chaplain of His Britannic Majesty's
~~Ship~~ Frigate Dublin —

The deceased was about 22 years of age
a native of Hartwick Massachusetts of unpresuming prepos-
sessing, and ~~promising~~ bid fair to reach the acme of
his ~~profession~~ calling in a short time. Every Officer
and seamen on board esteemed him highly while living
and after his death paid him the tribute due to his
worth in unfeigned sorrow — The following impromp-
tu sprang from the occasion —

With health and youth and vigour crowned
He crossed o'er ocean's breast —
Now low beneath a rising mound
His body lies at rest

Far from home and kindred dear
He drew his latest breath
Encircled round his humble bier
Kind friends have mourned his death

Far from home and Kindred dear
He drew his latest breath
Encircled round his humble bier
Kind friends have mourned his death

He rests — though on a foreign shore
His mortal part must lie,
That which still hints, evermore
Shall awake with Him on High —

The Bay of Callao is said to be situated where the former city of Lima (destroyed by an earthquake A.D.) stood. It is formed by a point of land projecting south westerly from the mainland 1½ miles, and the island of St. Lorenzo which lies 2 or 3 miles without the point — The passage into the harbour is generally made to leeward of Lorenzo although there is a good channel between that and the main land, through which ships of the largest class may pass with safety; and this is the passage sailed through by ships at the time Callao was blockaded by Lord Cochrane. The S.E. trade wind constantly blows here and renders it a very smooth and fine harbour for riding, and it is so extensive that five hundred ships may ride at the same time —

Ships here Lima lies about nine miles inland from Callao, near the base of towering Cordilleras — It is laid The plan of it is similar to that of Philadelphia in the U.S. in oblong square the streets running North & South & East & West, which are paved, with walks on both sides and a drain in the middle to convey the filth from the city. The have water works are so arranged above that with the gentle

of this city, a stream of water continually runs through the drains which gives the streets a very pleasant appearance —

The houses are built some of one but generally two stories high — framed of wood — the frame being closely interwoven with laths — on either side of which they are covered with mud or mortar constituting the walls — have a piazza over the north the basement story sitting into the street, and are generally whitewashed on the outside

The palace square is the most showy as well as the most business part of the city. It is centrally located with the palace, the residence of the President and offices of Government, on the north a magnificent cathedral on the east, and blocks of handsome buildings — having arcades in front — on the south and west. These blocks together with the basement stories of the palace fronting the square are appropriated as stores — On the south side are kept fancy and dry goods, on the north hardware and on the west shops of almost every description Under the arcades the ground is paved with very small and very handsome stones having a flat side for the surface which renders them almost as smooth and much more durable than brick or tile walks. Here the shopkeepers hang out their goods for public view and to attract the attention of buyers; and these goods, together with a line of elegant show cases extending along the outside of the arcades, set off with jewels and fancy articles tastefully arranged, make a splendid appearance. In front of the arcades, on the square there is a line of booths or stalls erected where goods are exposed for sale during the day and removed at night-fall. In the centre of the square stands a handsome ornamental brass fountain formerly of considerable magnificence, but now out of repair and not supplied with water —

The palace recedes from the square in a quadrangular form and occupies that space of ground in the plan of the city — Its outward appearance has nothing imposing to attract the eye of a stranger but rather, in my view of it, a gloomy aspect, as much resembling the Bastile

of a piece as what they are. It is ... I was a little however that the magnificent state of its interior richly compensates to beholders for the mean appearance of the exterior.

The churches are of my authority of every size & number — built much in the manner of those in ... some of them in good repair and grand effect — others going to decay with old age and for want of care; — and this last fact I am informed has arisen from the impoverished state of the Peruvian since the revolutions and counter-revolutions that have since taken place. — I was much astonished however at the costly splendour of one that I entered — the statues of gold and silver — the richness and elegance of the paintings with the hangings of damask velvet bordered with gold; these, with every thing else in equal style and splendour — far exceeded all that I had ever seen of the Catholic churches in Europe —

As to respects the habits manners customs of the people I have had but a limited opportunity for judging; — From what I have seen however I infer that civility & hospitality are conspicuous traits — especially among the latter classes — of Peruvian character — many of whom have a just claim to beauty — according to fancy — are highly skilled in horsemanship and it is not only their general manner of travelling but also a favorite exercise and amusement — their manner of riding — astride — may, at first sight appear indecorous to one unaccustomed to such a sight; — but from better acquaintance, dislike will vanish if not turn to admiration — The method of travelling is general — among all classes; — and the produce for market is likewise brought in from the country on the backs of mules or asses —

The climate is mild and like many tropical is subject to epidemical complaints — The heat is the same as at Payta and foreigners it is said, though they for a while hold out, seldom become acclimated, but are generally overcome in consequence and with become the victims of this or some other disease by removing to high latitudes —

Rain seldom falls here and vegetation is sustained by the heavy night dews — The seasons & the soil are similar to those of other tropical climes —

Our anchorage was without the flat which screened the town from view, and from the appearance of the castle and fortifications — in good keeping and of considerable consequence together with the men of war, merchantmen, whale ships and coasters lying in the harbour, I had preconceived an opinion that Callao was a place of no small size and importance, but in this I was disappointed. The town is mean and dirty as can well be conceived — it consists of one street running about half a mile with the curvature of the bay having three or four others intersecting it and running back about one eighth of that distance another street or lane running across these, and an open market placed in its rear. It has also a convenient mole or wharf for the reception and shipping and landing for boats of cargoes — These with the exception of the road leading to the Capitol make the plan of the sea port —

The buildings — excepting some half a dozen commercial houses, a hotel and the residence of the Capt of the Port of better and better appearance — are one story high, of wood frames — plastered with mud, the interiors of which are ceiled with planed boards — the partitions if any there be of the same and floors of tile — The commercial houses

houses — fronting the main street — which is paved about half its length — are three stories high and of an oblong square. The ground floors are occupied for stores, and the upper stories are the dwellings of the merchants — The hotel and house occupied by the Capt of the Port are in the same style — Also for the governor building the exception or the double purpose of shops and dwellings the inhabitants being either mechanics, or in some trade.

The road leading to the Capital is for the first half over a dry sandy and apparently waste plane of land — It is macadamized with small beach stone the first mile, after which there is nothing but natural soil, until entering an avenue called the Alameda which commences about a mile from the gate of the City — On either side of the Alameda — without the walls — there are two rows of willow trees having foot paths and a running stream between them, and along the walls at intervals are placed seats of brick plastered and white washed; altogether casting an air of comfort around; — of course the Limonades make it a favorite resort for a walk or lounge —

About two and a half miles from Callao a short distance to the right from the road is the remains of Bela Vista, — once a town of considerable size, but — from the combined devastations of war and earthquake — it is now only a mass of ruins —

Whilst lying at Callao we scraped our oil from between decks & restowed it — painted ship, got a supply of water and good recruit of vegetables, — Each watch had three days liberty —

Nov. 30th Sailed from Callao — in Co. with the Ship Messenger of N.B. 27 months out 800 — for Santa Clara and a cruise — Dec. 5th made Pisco head and lay off and on there during the night — 7th lay off and on Salta harbour — a boat plying between the ship and shore throughout the day — Landing sundry articles and bringing off Onions &c — At sundown all hands on board — made sail and stood to sea

At Salta Miles Amazon of F. Haven — 6 mo out 15 Bbls and Stephania of N.B. 17 mo out 600 —

Fell in with and old acquaintance and schoolfellow E — N — on board the Sealing Schr Camphrodora of London lying at this place —

Sunday 15th after a pleasant run from Salta we came to in Chiles Island harbour where we lay 7 days — took on board the Erasmus and boat loads of oil — Ship Pearl Oakes, master of N.B. arrived the 17 from Hon to 24 mo out 1850 Bbls — Ship Ceres of Nantucket arrived the 21st 14 mo out 900 Bbls —

Salta is a general rendezvous or recruiting port for whalemen that have cruised on the west coast of South America. It is a small village at the head of a bay which makes in some twenty miles & consists of a few houses & stores. Recruits at Pisco, Callao, Valparaiso and some few at the Galapagos Islands. Most of the ships that touch on the coast — stop at the head of a bay which makes in some 15 or 18 miles & consists of a few houses & stores. The bluff head land or promontory generally called Salta head

[illegible] and is probably the most [illegible]
[illegible] covering about half a mile square of [illegible]
lower declivity
at the foot on upon the [illegible] high and hill — about
in lieu of them are
three or four; but what we have to do we make use
There are lanes some twenty or more lanes cross each other at right
angles and many of them will hardly allow two persons to meet
abreast —
which lived on by buy and sheep, in the
mountains to a man a day.
of these is some sort of which they are really
are although they are so impoverished in appearance
as to have plenty of money —
[illegible] feet miles here and the town is one
and all that is made use of is brought from
from a village about to be sold down the coast
the white coast as well as the interior so rocky
they extend [illegible] miles inland and hilly
and plains — a more distant like rolling mountains
have never seen —

Potatoes and onions are of better quality here than
most other places; and when they are not to be had in
abundance they may be attained at low price
18 days
Sunday 18th after a pleasant run from St — during
which time we took 50 bbl oil — anchored in Charles
Island harbour — —

The Island as we have before said has been given
to several meritorious officers in remuneration for services
a settlement of about 70 families called Floriana is planted here
by the Mexican Government — of which States and a native
of the United States founder as Governor of the Colony
of the Islands

He is said to be a man of brilliant talents — has assuming and unobtrusive manners — and in every respect adequate to the commanding ~~situation~~ station in which he is ~~placed~~ holden — His zeal for the welfare and increase of the colony seems unlimited, and there is every probability that it will flourish under him — Masters of Ships that have visited the island speak highly of his accommodating and polite treatment and from my own observations I ~~can~~ ~~entirely~~ ~~coincide~~ with their opinion

The by-laws which he has established are well calculated for the promotion of the permanent good of the colonists — A tax of a few dollars yearly is imposed upon each male resident, which it is his desire should be paid in labour upon the roads, or other general improvements that may be in operation — All kinds of spirituous liquors are prohibited as contraband; and the masters of vessels that arrive on their arrival are particularly requested not to give even a glass to any of the Islanders. This looks well — and there is no doubt that much good must arise from it; but it is to be feared that in many instances the Governors injunction is very little regarded — and that much of the poison liquid finds its way among the settlers — One instance of the kind has come within my knowledge, which I shall shortly mention — Harbouring seamen that have deserted from ships is prohibited under penalty of banishment from the colony — Land is granted to the settlers on the most for a very trifle and on the most accommodating terms as respect payment —

The Colony is planted in a beautiful and fertile valley under a mountain of considerable height — in the S.W. part of the island, and about five miles from the harbour — and equidistant from Black Beach, another convenient

landing place — the roads leading from the town are, at present, in a bad condition, being very rough & stony, but they will be much better when their houses like other new settlements — are rudely constructed, both in material — but they answer, however, the end of keeping the inmates from the scorching sun and nightdews, and probably they are tolerably comfortable in the rainy season — the continual mildness of the weather, & the necessity of having the doors & windows closed —

The soil, though not the most prolific, probably cannot be found any where, and all that is requisite to insure good crops, is planting the seed — there is no vegetable that has been made trial of, in what has arrived at the greatest perfection in quality, and yielded abundantly in quantity — Indian corn, Irish & sweet Potatoes — squashes, pumpkins, cucumbers — cabbages, cauliflowers &c &c are the common productions — The advantages together with the convenience with which ships may stop here — the island being on the direct route of them many ships cruise — will without doubt make it a place of general resort for those that cruise off this coast, the only one difficulty — that of obtaining water remains — at present it is brought from the village to the shore in panniers or baskets on the backs of donkeys, which is a very tedious & expensive both This difficulty inconvenience however is shortly to be remedied by the laying of an aqueduct which is to convey the water to the beach, and when this is accomplished ships can be accommodated with every thing necessary to recruit well for a long cruise — Wood may be got any where along the shore — in any little quantity — Grapes are plenty on the leeward side of the island but there are several places where boats may come to windward in smooth weather and find them almost convenient to the water — There are three bays together with [illegible] in the vicinity where many of them cruise, will without doubt make it a place of general resort for such as cruise off

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

had rather had not fallen to 2d mate's lot, as it is I shall be to be understood
obliged to go back and give an account of the manner in which we entered
on the Ship's articles in N Bedford &c &c — —

At the time the Ship's for the voyage the practice of sending
Ships to Sea without Liq spirits, which by the bye, to seamen
alike, is the best thing that ever happened, was becoming common —
And to follow the general rule of reform all our the Ship's Company
were perfectly willing: It was therefore agreed and expressly
stipulated upon the articles that (a little Alcohol for med purposes excepted)
no Ardents, would be allowed
the ship by the owners; but in lieu of which good Wt. coffee
and plenty of spruce beer — — Accordingly all went on well
for a length of time during which spruce beer was rather an
uncommon than common drink; but in the course of time the
fact was ascertained that there were different kinds of Beer
among the cabin stores exclusive of the three and thirty gallon
cask of N.E.Co Rum, which should have been bottled and put
in the Medicine chest, but instead of which — on account
of its bulk I presume — was stowed in the run of the ship —
Whether these liquors were put on board by the owners,
whether they were the Capts private property and brot by him or
whether they got on board in some other way I know not, but
this much I know, that three fourths or more of the ship
Co's mates they had been left behind according to agreement —
when the Charles sailed we were 25 months out with 2000 bbls
oil, had only one season more at the extent to cruise — and as our
N.E.R. had found but a small market in the way of medicine
and like would probably remain in rather dull demand or that
use, I suppose our Capt was a little perplexed to devise a
way to get rid of it — be and other we take all things into
consideration and also that an illicit traffic could be carried on to big

peculiar advantage without fear of being discovered, I say taking these circumstances under due consideration can it be wondered at that the cabin of our fair famed Temperance ship was turned into a grog shop where Rum was retailed at the price of $1 per gallon cash or barter! — Such is the fact, and I shall not stop to comment upon the enormous effects but merely notice that the colonists lost the only boat they had of any value, & the crew of which four in number barely escaped with their lives by the liquor — and also that if our steward had not made of very solid materials it must have been undermined or smashed by the canvass bag-true fact in bread, containing some 12 or 15 lbs of nails — with which he was beaten — As it is I believe his cranium is only softened a little — But enough of this the affair is of too serious a nature to be made light of — and therefore I shall say no more on the subject —

We obtained an abundant supply of Terapin and stock of wood also some pumpkins &c here — saving in port 7 days — — Ship Isaac Howland Austin Arr. the 19th from Fonbec — 24 mo out 1350 bbls — Ship Corea of Nantucket arr. 21st 14 mo out 500 bbls —

On the 22d. (Oct) we took our anchor and stood to sea bound for a cruise upon the western ground in our expectations of speedily getting our full complement of oil and soon enjoying the pleasures of steering for home — &c

Narboro

We proceeded directly around Albemarle Islands and cruised a few days about Lee Bay a bay that is formed by between these two islands the passage between them being very narrow — where many sperm whales have been taken, and it was one of the resorts of Com Porter in the Essex frigate)

in company with ships Charles Carroll of Barnstable 18 months out 1100 bbls Ora Nimbe of N Bedford 7 mo — 350 — and Aaron F Hussey 6 month out 15 bbls — saw only one whale late which was taken by the C. C —

On the 30th & 31st steered to the westward and on the 31st early in the morning descried a large sheal of whales pursued them until 11 o'clock A.M. when the 2 starboard boats got up with and struck a large whale but before the other boats could get to her assistance the fish sounded out all their line and run to windward pursued the same until noon when the whale rose ~~when~~ when having lost ground each rising he was given up and the boats returned to the ships — At 1 P.M. descried another sheal six miles to leeward breaching — At 2 lowered the boats again in pursuit of the starboard boat again fastened and took a 30 bbl whale the rest of the ~~Boat~~ made off in a hurry to leeward — The other boats followed them several risings, but, finding they lost ground gave up the chase @ 3.30 P.M. —

Jan'y 2d. captured another whale of 25 bbls

~~13th~~ We steered to the S & westward until the 12th at night when we were in lat 5 South and long 102 West ~~the whale~~ (from 100 to 120 West and from the Equator to 8 South is called the western ground) ~~and Hauled~~ Sail and lay by the night — the day following saw several ships — spoke with the Pacific of N. Bedford 11 months out — 900 bbls — Ann Perry of Portsmouth N H 14 months 400 bbls — afternoon of same these two ships got a large whale in &c — —

Afternoon By the Pacific rec'd letters from home dated Jan'y 33 — the first since I left home

14th — at daylight Several sail in sight among them the Pacific & N. Ferry. cutting to leeward — — At 8 A. M. saw a Spout of large whales at 9 lowered the boats in pursuit at 11 A M struck two of the whales & got them along side at 2 P.M. —

15th — Spoke Ships Isaac Howland, Auster — (had seen no whales since we left here.) Clarke, Stone) And the other, N. Bedford C. T. 40 months out 25 hund bbls wanting 1 to fill up

16th — Supplied the H. F. with 2 pipes bread —

18th — In company with the N. H. and ship L. — sold the N. H. Rigging and provisions — & L. our spare boat —

19th — Spoke Ship Barclay. Coffin — 33 mo out 1300 bbls

22d — At 10 A. M. spoke ship Abigail, Clark of & from N. Bedford 26 months out — 1600 bbls — our Capt went on board & remained the day and at sundown both ships lay by to give the crews an opportunity of interchanging visits, or, as the whalemen term it an evening gam — —

— The Abigail belongs chiefly to the same owners as the Russell and sailed from the Ocean a few days later than our selves — On her last voyage she was unusually fortunate being absent only 24 months and turned out in N. Bedford 2880 bbls oil — — We are considered as rival ships there being some heavy bets, gloves &c pending at stake between the merchants at home upon the result of our voyages. Of course either commander and ships Company have been desirous to outdo their competitor — The following will show how we coped to the present this date

Close of first year	Abigail	550	Russell		300
" 2	do	"	800	do	1000
" 3	do	"	1550	do	2000
22d Jan		"	1600	do	2250

leaving the Abigail in want of 1050 lbs to fill up and 200 to complete our fare —

The A has had the advantage in regard to boats, having had four in readiness for whaling whereas we have had but three they say however they have their fourth boat but seldom — They have been more than three but for some cause have not been so fortunate — The crew complain bitterly of hard usage and short allowance of provision — this is not the case with us and it is not improbable that this may have been a damper to their ardour — It is a well demonstrated fact (and it is strange that masters or even owners are so blinded to their own interest as to act in opposition to it) that ships where the crews are used like men instead of being driven over more inhumanly than are the most abject slaves, as is too often the case — will eventually make good voyages and generally short ones — Whales are not so plenty as formerly and there are so many ships now in the business that one can scarcely throw a line over water but a boat of some ship or other is ready to pounce upon it, consequently and very naturally the fish are shy — and what are taken must be by hard pulling and skillful management — Now it is clear that it is preposterous to suppose that ships can do well where the crews are not only half starved but likewise abused and maltreated by those in office over them as —

D.

26th — descried a shoal of whales and captured two — about — 30 bbls. 27th saw whales but got none
30th spoke Ship Mercator — Sprague. 6 p. month out 15 bbls — —

Feby. 1st Spoke Ship Eagle of N. Bo. 6 months out 300 bbls & Isaac Howland — same oil as others we last spoke her —
4th Spoke Ship Corinthian of Boston 14 mo. out — 200 bbls
5th saw the Wm Thompson, boats chase a large whale to windward — did not get up with him — several other ships in sight —

5th In the morning saw a pod of large whales off our lee going
East to the southward. chased them with the ships until 10 A.M.
when the boats were lowered and a 50 bbl whale taken —
9th Spoke Ship Gov. Clinton of Sag Harbor 2 years out 1800
From the 5th to the 16th the weather was rugged and nothing seen.
17th At day light distance two ships off our lee bow and we soon
perceive they were manoeuvring for whales — bore up for them
immediately and at 7.30 saw one of the ships take a whale close
At 8 detected the whales, and at 9 lowered the boats in pursuit — not
very sanguine of success because both other ships had given up the
Chase; however we got a 55 bbl whale by hard pulling and got
him alongside a little after noon — The two ships in sight were the France,
Ally 15 mo 1000 B. and Robt Edward Hearne of N.B. — the F got
a whale — —
18th Spoke the France Ally and Henry Nelson — The F 33 months out
with 2000 bbls just from Japan and bound home — not full by 1500
Capt Nelson reports the Japan fleet to have had generally very
bad success the two last seasons —
20 Spoke the France, Phenix and Robt Edwards and had
a general gam in the evening — The R. E. was 27 months out
1700 bbls — fell in with an acquaintance and fellow townsmen
on board of her — — — he is cooper of the ship and
stands in high repute for abilities and correct deportment
From this time to the 5th of March we cruised upon this ground
and saw nothing — (one ship alone excepted) — The weather for the
most part had been rugged and as one 50 bbl whale was all
that we were in want of to complete our fare all hands were
eager to be on the homeward passage and trust to fortune the
chance of getting one going up the coast — Accordingly
on the 9th we steered to the southward & the wind under all sail
bound to Tatakuaus to paint ship, fit for doubling the Cape
and recruit for home —
The weather —

The weather was very fine and the wind light until the 20th inst when we were in latitude 28 south and longitude 105 West. and at 9 A.M. descried the spout of a sperm whale 1½ mile distant off the weather bow He had just emerged from the sun's disk — had he been in any other direction we should have seen him at a greater distance — At 10 descried another whale a mile farther distant — Every man on board from the Capt to the Cook were now in high spirits & eager for the engagement — and every moment from the time we saw the first whale until the boats were in the water seemed a tedious suspense — But none of us knew the days of woe we had before us — The whales manoeuvered so that whilst one was down the other stopt up and this made it much more difficult to keep the run of a single whale, which was highly important — At 11.30 the Quarter boats were lowered and pursued the whales two hours without success They were then called to the ship and the ship continued the chase while all hands sat down at dinner — At 1 P.M. all the boats were lowered — we were all eager in the chase that the boat first get in advance of the Starmost whale and several times changed to the other — Capt perceiving that there was a whale in view and that he might probably the next rising come up near the ship made a signal for the Starboard boat to come along side — The signal was answered by the Larboard boat and we continued the pursuit with the other boat as before but rather losing ground and pretty well tired — At ¾ P.M. Signals were made from the ship that the Larboard boat was fast to the weather whale — The two other boats were now between 3 & 4 miles to leeward and it was not proper for one boat to attempt to kill the whale while the other were so far distant — At 25 minutes from the time the signal was made the Starboard boat got up and fastened to the whale having been sailed dead to windward at the rate of 7½ miles per hour at the least calculation The fish had a notion of being a little ugly snapt his jaws flounced and threw the water about him in all directions but two or three good lances made him throw up columns of blood instead of water and after taking a few circuits around

a small circle and striking the water will be fluke as he writhes in the agony of death stretched himself full length and lay a lifeless mass — a lifeless monster —

After three hearty cheers the boat in a line took the prize in tow and at sundown we had him alongside and well secured with fluke ropes —

Pulling an oar is hard work at the best, but when in pursuit of whales where a man if he has the least ambition will exert himself to the uttermost is doubly so — When I got on board I felt hardly able to carry my body about the deck, and I believe there were none but what felt equally as bad — However, we shortened sail, got a warm supper — came on deck — to look at the result of our days work; and as for myself fatigue vanished while as I stood looking at the huge Leviathan and the thought of home, and a happy termination of our voyage rushed upon me; indeed I was loath to leave the view and reflections which the tinged with bitter recollection of the past served to strengthen my resolves for the future — even when the hour of 10 had past and the whole ship Company (save two men on the watch) were wrapt in "natures sweet restorer balmy sleep"

At daylight the next morning, we got our cutting tackles aloft and commenced cutting — At 2 P M finished cutting and at 3 commenced boiling — 29th finished boiling — and the following morning threw our try works overboard — Turned up 9 Bbls And now

29 As we have got through with whaling perhaps a description of the equipments for and manner of capturing and taking care of whales of the deep may not be uninteresting —

In the first place the ships are fitted at great cost for the business and in the most of long experience in the trade has shown to be the cheapest in the end: that is not only found in provisions, for there are to this day but also in other respects that are found in other ships / boats, casks, rigging, whalelines, harpoons, lances & other articles belonging to the business and above all a hard working crew — Take for instance

voyages are badly planned unless the harpooners & boat steers are
to the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties —

The great work done after a ship leaves home, there are twelve
oars two watches for the day & boat's crews are chosen boats fitted for
whaling and a man kept at each mast head to look out for whales who
are relieved every two hours —

The boats are built with particular regard to lightness,
are fleet in rowing — manned by 5 oarsmen the foreward one being the harpooner and
the other the boat header —
They are fitted with three irons or harpoons & two lances which are kept in constant ready
and a number of pair irons and lances which are stowed under the thwarts for
use in cases of emergency: — the lines are commonly about 300 fathoms in length which
are coiled in a tub between the two afternoon thwarts — to the head post
stem of the boat is a notch or as the whalemen term it a chock for the line
to run through when going out of the boat and in the stern is a logger head round
which to take the line either to hold the boat when a whale is struck
or to make it fast to when towing — The other articles are drag which
are two pieces of plank about a foot square with a rope or line
attached to the centre of them by which to fasten them to the line
the purpose of checking a whale's speed when sounding — ; mittens for the
hands with which to cling to the line, a spade to cut a hole in the whale's
head for a towing — a knife in either end of the boat to cut if necessary
a double forked crotch which sits in the gunwale and in which is rested the lance
two pursing whales — a keg containing two kegs of water — a keg containing lantern candles & tinder for use
basket for baling to bale with do — a compass and several
Directly under each oar man is a cleat fastened to the boat
a hole in it sufficiently large to receive the end of the oar for the double purpose
the arms when not pulling or to keep the oar secure when the oarsman is engaged
hauling line or attending to some other part of the action —

As soon as a whale is descried from the mast head — the boats
are got in readiness for lowering: — the Capt with his glass keeps
view of the whale at the mast head; and the ship is manoeuvred so as to
bring the fish in the most advantageous situation — this object being
attained the boats are lowered and away they go in hot chase for
the onset — Sometimes they may go directly on to the fish un-
and fasten to him before he goes down with little or no trouble
but it is more frequently the case they chase him several hours

especially if the whale [illegible] the boat — but, allowing the
the boat to be fast to a [illegible] whale to come up with the mast —
they keeps directly after him until the head of the boat is even
square with the whale's flukes when the he is steered a little
to on side so as to cast her clear of the fast one & to
after when far enough forward the mast is given by the boat header
stand up harpooner — and the head of the boat is laid towards
the fish — the order "Cast" follows and as and in the same breath
as the word fly "Stern all" is shouted and the boat is backed
stern foremost and of the sucks — or when a harpoon enters a whale
ten to one but he stirs the element into a commotion around him
and a boat is lucky to get off without a crack — with his
flukes — as he strikes with his flukes or tail he dart
forward and runs a little distance with amazing velocity; as
as the boat is rid all coils of the line around the
forehead. the boat rides with the same speed and her crew
must be careful to set steady in the boat; for, the least mismanagement
might upset her — After running a little short distance
he [illegible] to stop — [illegible] mile — he
and lies some time rolling [illegible] with his jaw and flukes out of the
[illegible] — if he is a large fish he is apt to turn on the
the second boat is fast to him
is the time that a boat should be on the spot to lance him —
if the fish is the fish be a large one they usually await
the second boat's fastening before attempting to kill him — not
the line is hauled in to the boat until she is within some
six or eight fathoms, when the bite of the line is taken
in abreast of the bow thwart and the boatman hauls the
boat along side the whale and the boat header lances him:
When a boat whale is rolling to right, much instead of hauling
along side of him the boat is pulled square up to him, every man
at his oar in readiness to stern off as the lance flies — either
of these methods as the occasion requires is practised until the
is dead — or rather until the [illegible] clots
of blood [illegible] from his [illegible] the blood ooze
from the spout hole when a few minutes before columns of
[illegible] and then the boats may all [illegible]

a bl[illegible] fish [illegible] which is generally in [illegible] minutes — not however until he has taken several [illegible] to [illegible] and almost invisible in the [illegible] to [illegible] the water — which is reddened with blood at [illegible] the spouting of his [illegible] while, and [illegible] by the whalemen is termed [illegible] flurry, and it is at this time that the greatest [illegible] is [illegible] in the management of the boats —

Soon as the fish is dead he is towed up to the ship [illegible] and a rope is put through the flukes of the tail which a man is sent and best to the end of a long [illegible] the ship is to [illegible] and to run to the stern for the purpose of hauling the [illegible] alongside. The blubber [illegible] the [illegible] of in large masses called blanket pieces by means of [illegible] and [illegible] the cask below in and the cask [illegible] filled. It is [illegible] cut from [illegible] 18 to 24 inches [illegible] on a [illegible] table or "horse" and cut into thin [illegible] similar to a currier which process is called mincing [illegible] being thus [illegible] nothing remains but to boil it out [illegible] it with the copper then and stow them below. And thus much for whaling —

Our course was direct and our passage favorable towards [illegible] port after taking the last whale and on the 13th of April [illegible] in Valparaiso harbour —

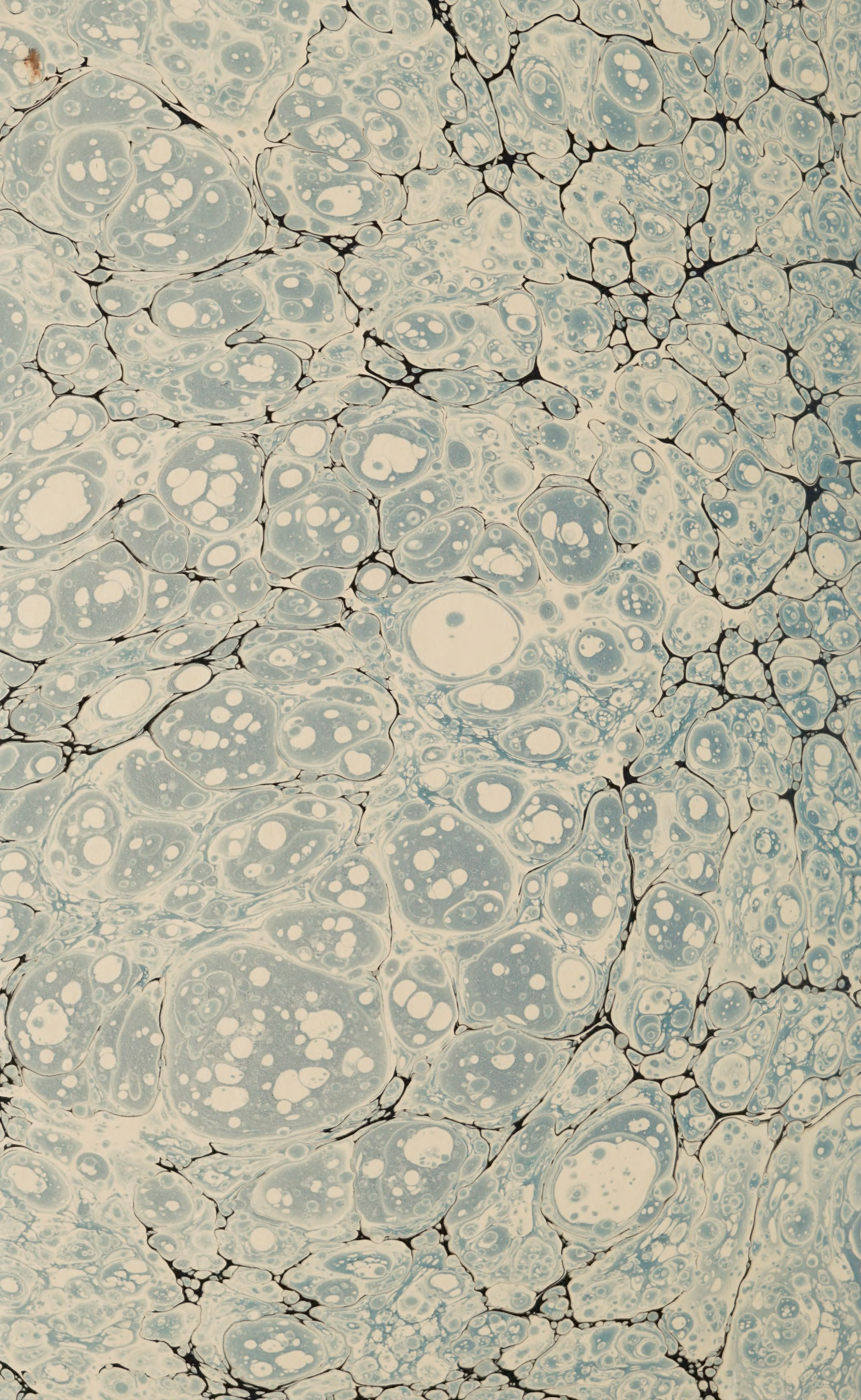
Here we found a considerable number of whale ships some [illegible] of which we had fallen in with at a previous period of the voyage [illegible] together with those that arrived while we lay in port make the following list viz — Weymouth, Nantucket, 32 months 1300 — Hope Nantucket — 1600, 24 months Jupiter Nantucket 1800. 17 months [illegible] — dos. 1800. 33 mos — Elizabeth. 800. 22 mos — Wm Thompson 2700 [illegible] 33 months Mercury 5 months oil. Hector 2100 35 months oil of the Pacific Charles Doane Fairhaven. 1800. 33 mos — Almira Edgarton 3 months [illegible] Pacific of Hyde 1800. 27

While here we painted the ship's hull and spars,
the weather, being fine for several days, was a [illegible]
to us in the way painting and refitting the ship, and generally
[illegible] carry in port was longer than is agreeable. However
during the fifteen days we got our ship painted, yards
spars from aloft — all things secured above the decks and the
ship in order for double Cape Horn weather
Our recruit consisted of 25 bbls potatoes 15 bbls onions —
12 bbls apples 2 hampers grapes 2 do pears a quantity of cabbages beets
&c and a quarter of a bullock fresh — this is a fair sample
of the ship's recruits at different ports where we have been
whatever could be obtained, however high the price, have
been bought by the Capt — Our employers allow it and it is their
interest to do so — Where men are well fed and well treated —
I repeat what I have said before they will be contented, and tho'
they may for a while have hard luck, yet they will stick by
the ship and officers
and eventually will make good voyages —
When such is the case [illegible] generally
Chantys will be sung and Mutinies unheard of —
The above recruit for a homeward passage only
which could not be expected to exceed three months — is double in
quantity what some ships got at T. for six months cruises —
and as for fruit there are very few that get any —

We remained at T. until the 28th March — and each watch
as usual had several days liberty on shore — I myself
had intended going to the city Concepcion, but the
account received from others that visited it put me off, that
I concluded it would hardly be worth the time and expense —
[illegible] for however enough may be seen at the
port to [illegible] one day's visit with the Chilians
from more minute observation I have
and I am confirmed in the opinion [illegible] sorry [illegible]

On the 14th at 8 A.M. we left the ship Nantucket pr gig with a light breeze from the eastward & stood down the bay with the afternoon flood when we anchored under Cape Cruz. Here on the 15th at 9 A.M. a breeze sprung from the S.E. and we were again under way — the Mary of Nantucket for a consort and the Tutor of N. Bedford in Co. — We soon lost sight of them & saw them throughout the day — parted Co from the Mary at night was lost sight of the Tutor the following day until 4 P.M. when the mast out of sight off our larboard quarter

In lat 16° we encountered a heavy gale which lasted 24 hours — The ship being very deep and a good deal as was laden as regards weight on deck, laboured considerably, however she rode it out and weather as could be expected — From 4 to 4½ Oct 16th several days light and adverse winds — Spoke the ship Volunteer of and from Bristol R.I. 7 months out 70 bbls oil — from 12 to 16th our run was good and the weather not severe — On the 15th at 8 A.M. descried the Diego Islands — bearing N.N.E. distant 20 miles — lat 16 30 — Long — 68. 48. West — —

The winds were strong and fair as rounding the promontory — and our little bark under a press of canvass rolled off majestically before it — On the 17th we passed the Straits of Mal Bay and entered the Caribbean Sea — the breeze still fresh and fair — and so it continued until we were in lat 12 South when we encountered a very heavy gale of wind which lasted continued about 48 hours — of

2200
11000
40 Hundred of good bbls of whale oil
20
31½ A good trip
20
620
10
630
80
400
31.50
35.50
300
235
630
5
3150
65
630
1950
340
409.50
24.25
12.50